



Philip Seccombe  
Police and Crime  
Commissioner  
for Warwickshire

# Governance & Performance Board

OPEN Minutes 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023

## Meeting Record:

<b>Chair</b>	Philip Seccombe, Police and Crime Commissioner
<b>Police and Crime Commissioner</b>	Attendees: Philip Seccombe (PCC), Polly Reed (PR), Claire Morris (CM)  Teams: Emma Daniell (DPCC), Sara Ansell (SA)  Minutes: Imogen Forrest (IF)
<b>Warwickshire Police</b>	Attendees: Debbie Tedds (DT), Ben Smith (BS) Steve Russel (SR)  Teams: Jeff Carruthers (JC)  Apologies: Alex Franklin-Smith (AFS), Dave Gardner (DG) Alison Hall (AH)
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Actions and Matters Arising

Reference	Discussion	Action
01.01/08/2023	The minutes of the open meeting dated 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.	

## Rural Crime

Reference	Discussion	Action
02.01/08/2023	<p>A set of questions had been prepared by the OPCC around Rural Crime and had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>PCC questioned how the Rural Crime Team (RCT) are tasked? BS confirmed RCT are seen as part of the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) so there are no specific KPI's but reassured the PCC that there are governance arrangements in place and apart of regional meetings.</p> <p>PCC questioned who represents the force at the Rural Crime Board meetings? BS confirmed it is Insp Alison Wiggins and Insp Steve Davies.</p> <p>PCC thanked BS for responses provided and stated he was satisfied and reassured with the contents.</p> <p>PCC asked whether RCT members could join local community farmer WhatsApp groups. BS confirmed it can be looked into.</p> <p>A discussion took place around Off-Road Bikes.</p> <p>PR questioned if the force require additional Off-Road Bikes? CC stated the force have enough bikes within the fleet and most are based in the North of Warwickshire.</p> <p><b>Action: PR and BS to discuss further outside of the meeting.</b></p> <p>DPCP questioned if the bikes had been fixed, as when previously visited, there were some issues? BS confirmed there were no issues with the actual bikes but the regulations around using them which are being reviewed.</p>	

## Finance

Reference	Discussion	Action
03.01/08/2023	PCC thanked JC for Q1 Money Matters report and questioned if any formal decisions were to be made.	

	<p>JC advised there is no immediate decisions as only in Q1.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the S106 funding. BS advised the S106 funding will be discussed in more detail at the Infrastructure Board.</p> <p>PCC made several general observations and followed up with some questions:</p> <p><b>Given the resource challenges in estates, are there likely to be some areas of further underspending in revenue and capital estates work?</b></p> <p>JC advised that historically there have been estates underspends in revenue. This remains a risk, although spending plans and work programmes are in place.</p> <p><b>Given that £3.8m of borrowing is £0.5m above the projected estates capital spend of £3.3m would the diversion of the rates refund to funding estates capital spend capital in 2023/24 be the most beneficial and efficient way of using it?</b></p> <p>JC advised the £0.5m is a net figure that offsets some other increased JC costs. The PCC questioned if this is the total NNDR refund or just the force element. JC confirmed that this was the backdated force element. Other partners had also been reimbursed.</p> <p>SA questioned whether the refund should be used to substitute planned capital expenditure to reduce borrowing levels, or whether the refund should be used to funding additional capital expenditure on estates as previously outlined to the PCC. JC confirmed no decision needs to be made at the moment but will be a decision going forward.</p> <p>The same part of the report identifies the additional Op Safeguard money which has been received from Government for the use of Custody Cells for prisoners. . CC highlighted that in relation to Op Safeguard, funding levels will go up and down. SA questioned what time period Op Safeguard covers? BS confirmed money received is for the period</p>	
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to 11st August but there is uncertainty around when it may be reopened.

**The report references some challenges in the ICT staff/agency market (para 3.25) – what impact is this having on progress with the Empower tech work? And how will this impact on the ability to generate improved productivity and efficiency? What projects/service areas are most likely to be adversely affected?**

SR confirmed that all in house vacancies will be fully established within the next few weeks as posts are either being filled or have been filled. SR advised that the new Head of IT starts in October.

PCC questioned if the force have measured efficiency? SR advised they have and it will provide benefits at a later time, as part of the wider budget programmes

PR questioned the performance on the Risual contract. CC confirmed the force have carried out some review and performance is improving. Some monies have been recovered due to initial lack of performance.

PR also highlighted that there has been some issues with people's cameras on teams and questioned if this was an issue known to IT. SR confirmed it is known and has been an issue with the surface pros for senior leaders and looking into replacing them.

**The PCC asked whether the force could provide assurance that the income generated by the WRSU is used solely for funding road safety related expenditure, rather than supporting the budget per se?**

BS confirmed that the funding is solely used for road safety as it is stated in legislation that is the purpose. It is also managed through the Road Safety Unit. This was welcomed and the PCC noted that he may require further updates on this position in due course.

**The PCC requested an update on the outstanding Op Rockhampton projects in**

	<p><b>2023/24, given that the reserve was increased at year end to fund this?</b></p> <p>The PCC was advised that Op Rockhampton is an operational project. BS/DG have been tasked to work on ideas on how best to spend the one off funding to deliver improvements; more training, additional estates work; filling of vacancies. BS stated there is good infrastructure around it and it is a priority for the force.</p> <p>JC suggested adding in a table into the next Money Matters report on Op Rockhampton. All agreed would be of use.</p> <p><b>Action: JC to add Op Rockhampton table in next report.</b></p> <p><b>The PCC asked whether we are likely to return to a period of 'less' income from mutual aid, as the officer headcount in forces increases? And whether there are any significant planned events that are currently known?</b></p> <p>BS confirmed there are no major upcoming events planned for this year. PCC questioned whether this should result in a corresponding reduction in overtime costs. The CC stated that this is not certain as there are two types of overtime. Some is casual and some is planned depending on ongoing operations. CC agreed that reducing overtime would be beneficial from a cost and wellbeing perspective. However, in the nature of the industry it cannot be helped.</p> <p>DPCC questioned if it was worth reviewing the twelve hour shift pattern to satisfy overtime being more avoidable? CC advised there will be a post implementation review of Empower and will look at the impacts of that specific shift pattern.</p>	
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## Estates

Reference	Discussion	Action
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04.01/08/2023	<p>BS presented the monthly Estates presentations, which were circulated prior to the meeting. BS highlighted several items for discussion.</p> <p><b>BaU Programme</b></p> <p>A brief discussion took place on the project updates presented on a graph highlighting dates to when works will commence on site. PCC thanked BS for useful information.</p> <p><b>Leek Wootton Parking</b></p> <p>BS advised that the parking consultation work is ongoing but will be able to update on the findings at the next meeting, in order to make a decision.</p> <p>BS presented the immediate term solutions around the Leek Wootton parking. This included actions completed and to be completed around physical adaptations to maximise existing spaces, staff practice changes &amp; negotiations with CALA regarding period notices.</p> <p><b>BlueLight Estate</b></p> <p>A discussion took place around a joint OPCC/WKP Sustainability Strategy that will outline commitments to reach net zero and for Warwickshire to be a pilot force. CC stated it is a scoping exercise and there would be no disadvantage to participating. PCC agreed.</p>	
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## Operational Matters

Reference	Discussion	Action
05.01/08/2023	CC updated the PCC on a recent following policing incident, which resulted in a death:	
	A discussion took place around the OCC figures. SR explained the weekly dashboard information for PCC benefit.	

	<p>CC advised the PCC that the triage pilot system will be in place until September and then reviewed to see if it can be embedded into the structure.</p> <p>PCC questioned what the current staffing situation is? BS advised there are additional staff in the OCC but will also be reviewed in September.</p>	
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## Any Other Business

Reference	Discussion	Action
06.01/08/2023	<p><b>Safer Streets</b></p> <p>PCC advised that Warwickshire will be receiving the same amount of funding as all forces, which is a positive for Warwickshire.</p> <p><b>Decision Notices</b></p> <p>PR advised that there are some outstanding DN's but all have been agreed within the GPB meetings.</p> <p><b>OPCC Estates</b></p> <p>PR proposed the idea of recruiting a dedicated estates lead for the OPCC. PCC requested PR write up a job description.</p> <p><b>Op Soteria</b></p> <p>CC advised the PCC that there will be a Thematic Inspection on Operation Soteria by HMICFRS in November.</p>	

## Approval

P. Seccombe on ...05.09.2023.....

D. Tedds on .....05.09.2023.....